



University of North Dakota
UND Scholarly Commons

RAIN Rhythms

College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines

Fall 2008

Rain Rhythms: Fall 2008

College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/rain-newsletter>



Part of the [Nursing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines, "Rain Rhythms: Fall 2008" (2008). *RAIN Rhythms*. 5.
<https://commons.und.edu/rain-newsletter/5>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in RAIN Rhythms by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact zeinebyousif@library.und.edu.



RAIN

Fall 2008

RHYTHMS

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Graduates



From top left are the Fall 2008 graduates Stacey Davis, Wendy Blair-Melton, Ashley Albertson, Ismelda Lucio, Johnette Gillis, & Tara Drapeaux. Pictured bottom from left are Leslie Tincher & Jamie Kopperdahl.>>>



Shawna Ziadah graduated August, 2008
<<<

UND's College of Nursing Dean Covington Resigns



After three and one-half years at UND, CON Dean Chandice Covington (left) resigned her position at UND as of December, 2008, to pursue research as the Florence Thelma Hall Endowed Chair for Nursing Excellence in Women's Health with the Laura Bush Women's Health Institute at Texas Tech University Health Center School of Nursing in Lubbock, Texas. We thank Dean Covington for her continuous and strong support of RAIN and wish her the very best in her new endeavor.

Dr. Helen Melland (right), Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, will serve as Interim Dean during the search process for a new CON dean.



Inside This Issue:

Graduates***Alumni Reunion***Where Are They Now?***WIND Orientation***EARTH Advisory Board Meeting***Sigma Theta Tau International***Recruitment & Travel***RAIN Students at Work

Closing A Chapter: We Honor Our Graduates December 17, 2008

RAIN appreciated UND's new first family who participated in the festivities.



President Robert Kelley (far right) and first lady, Marcia Kelley (center), joined us at the Honoring. Also pictured above (from left) are Deb Wilson, Dean Chandice Covington, and Doreen Yellowbird, who gave the opening prayer (second from the right).



Fall 2008 graduates: Leslie Tincher, Johnette Gillis, Stacey Davis, Tara Drapeaux, Ashley Albertson, Ismelda Lucio, & Wendy Blair-Melton (Jamie Kopperdahl not pictured)



Ismelda Lucio Family



Johnette Gillis Family



Wendy Blair-Melton Family



Tara Drapeaux Family



Leslie Tincher Family



Ashley Albertson Family



Stacey Davis Family

OPENING A CHAPTER: WIND & RAIN "NO EXCUSES"

ORIENTATION



From top left, Stephanie Northbird, Heidi Davis, Samantha Baer, Tiffany Grey Bear, Challsey Lawrence. Bottom left, Sarah Bell, Chenoa Gipp, Angel Dubois, & Charity Clukey



Several RAIN pre-nursing and nursing students (pictured above) attended the WIND/RAIN "No Excuses" Orientation at UND, August 6 to 14, 2008. The RAIN staff provided sessions on CON and UND requirements and expectations, math and science overviews, writing workshops, and practical applications that pertain to nursing. Not only did the students tour UND and the Grand Forks area, but they also heard presentations on Board of Nursing regulations, professionalism, test taking skills, campus safety, relaxation techniques, and mental health, and were able to spend some time in the CON's Learning Resource Center, experiencing the simulation lab. Allen Demaray of Fort Berthold provided the morning prayers and conducted talking circles in the evening. The Orientation was funded by HRSA and IHS.



RAIN students get a tour of the CON's simulation lab conducted by LRC director Melissa Marx (left in red).



Campus Activities

For information on UND's College of Nursing and the RAIN Program, go to www.nursing.und.edu/rain/ OR call 701-777-3224

New Admits to CON Nursing Program:

RAIN students Challsey Lawrence (left) and Chenoa Peterson were admitted to the UND's College of Nursing, starting Spring 2009.



In the Fall 07/Spring 08 RAIN RHYTHMS, we incorrectly identified Aleta Peltier-Delorme as Aleta Poltner. We apologize for the error on page 9.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Glenda Good Bird, Hidatsa Mandan, has the distinction of being the second American Indian to graduate (Fall, 1977) with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from UND's CON. While she was working as an RN in Dickinson, ND, Glenda decided she wanted to join the Air Force so she enrolled at UND, graduated in less than three years, joined the army and then the Commission Corp, where she spent 18 years. At the RAIN Alumni Reunion in October, 2008, Glenda told us: "If I hadn't come to UND, I wouldn't have accomplished what I did. Life is short. If you want to do something, go do it. Because you can."

Glenda has been employed as a nurse in a variety of health care settings, from a single physician clinic to large medical centers, giving her the opportunity to live in a number of states and enjoy traveling. Currently, Glenda works part time at the New Town Health Center at Fort Berthold.

Deb Wilson, Johnette Gillis (pictured on right) and Charity Clukey (left) attended the NANAINA Conference in Branson, MO, the last week of October, 2008. Charity said it was "an informative and unique experience to be able to meet native American nurses from all over the country." The nurses were from a diversity of healthcare facilities, from small reservation IHS clinics to urban center hospitals. The RAIN students had the opportunity to meet Audrey Koertyvelessy (center) of the Commission Corps, who was instrumental in establishing the IHS Section 112 nursing programs in the early 1990s.



The EARTH (Educational Advocates Recruiting to Healthcare) Advisory Board met at UND's College of Nursing on October 16, 2008. Held in the new Northern Plains Behavior Research Building, those present heard the Dean's report (RAIN Vision), updates on students, an overview of the No Excuses Orientation, grant reports, the latest on recruitment and travel, funding efforts, the RAIN survey report, and board members' reports and priorities. Members also attended the Clinical Simulation Center Grand Opening in the CON building.

RAIN EARTH Advisory Board Meeting



Pictured from left are student representative Ismelda Lucio, Chris Burd (former RAIN director), Emil LaRocque (Turtle Mountain Higher Education Specialist), Dr. Linda Neuerburg (Academic Specialist, UND's American Indian Student Services). Pictured bottom from left are Madonna Azure (BSN, 82; MS, 01, residing in Fort Berthold), Mary Lynn Eaglestaff (MS, 96, Aberdeen Area Nurse Consultant), & Deb McArthur (Vice President at White Earth Tribal & Community College). EARTH members not able to attend are Debra Smith (Public Health Nurse Coordinator, Fond du Lac), Dr. Laurel Vermillion (President, Sitting Bull College), Celestine Colhoff (Red Lake Tribal College) & student representative Johnette Gillis.

1st College of Nursing RAIN Alumni Reunion

On October 17, 2008, the RAIN program hosted a luncheon for the College of Nursing American Indian Reunion at the Ramada Inn and an open house at the new RAIN facility in the College of Nursing building. Eight American Indian College of Nursing graduates attended, along with around 40 CON faculty and the RAIN staff and their families. Allen Demaray provided flute music before the meal, and River's Edge Drum provided celebration rhythms and an honor song after special presentations. The Invocation was delivered by Doreen Yellowbird. The alumni shared memorable moments from their years at UND in the RAIN program. All expressed gratitude for the support and friendship of Deb Wilson and the staff of RAIN. The event concluded with a traditional Round Dance, a social and kinship tradition.

Left to right are alumni Kristina (Davis) Smith (BSN, 05); Alona (Davis) Jarmin (BSN, 05); Ella Richards (BSN, 92); Mary Lynn Eaglestaff (BSN, MS, 96); Glenda Good Bird (BSN, 77); Gloria Belgarde (BSN, 98); Diana LaFontaine (BSN, 98); Crystal Peltier (BSN, 02; MS in progress).



Deb Wilson presented Alumni and Development Coordinator Becky Cournia with a gift in appreciation for all she has done for the RAIN alumni fund.



Deb Wilson received a satin star quilt from the RAIN staff in honor of her 25+ years at UND, half of which has been as Coordinator of the RAIN program. Deb also received a crystal honor plaque from Mary Lynn Eaglestaff and the Aberdeen Area IHS nurses.



Former RAIN directors, Chris Burd and Lavonne Russell Hootman, and Dean Chandice Covington were given gifts of shawls sewn by Lizz and Doreen Yellowbird to honor them for their many contributions and ongoing support of the RAIN Program.



Traditional Round Dance



CON professor Glenda Lindseth and RAIN alumna Mary Lynn Eaglestaff



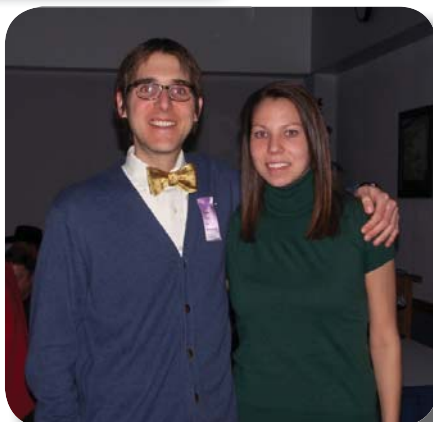
CON faculty and alumna: Cec Volden (retired faculty), Helen Melland (Associate CON Dean), Alona Davis Jarmin, Kristina Davis Smith, Bette Olson (faculty), Marlys Escobar (staff)

Mark your calendars--Coming soon: RAIN's 20th Anniversary Celebration Reunion, October 2, 2009. A good time will be had by all. See you there!



Four RAIN Students Inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International

In November, 2008, Matthew Lorenz, Jennifer Good, Kelly McCloud (all Turtle Mountain Chippewa) and Brenda Wolf (Leech Lake Ojibway) were inducted into UND's Eta Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nurses. Based on inductees' contributions to the nursing profession and their GPA eligibility, this induction is an honor in recognition of academic excellence.



Matthew Lorenz with his sister Marissa at the ceremony and below in the new College of Nursing's Clinical Simulation Center



Jennifer Good (right) with her sister Rebecca



Kelly McCloud



Brenda Wolf

Students at work in the new RAIN facility

Semester 3 students at work in the RAIN computer area



Vicky Hicks, Jodi Hajek, and Terilyn Poitra

Semester 4 students Laura LaRocque, Kelly McCloud, Robin Belgarde, and David Azure studying in the quiet room.



FNP students Brenda Wolf and Crystal Peltier



Semester 1 students Angel Dubois and Chenoa Gipp

UND's College of Nursing Faculty & Staff Tour North Dakota Reservations with RAIN Staff

In July, 2008, RAIN's director Deb Wilson, RAIN staff LoAnn Hirsch, Lizz Yellowbird, and Mary Monette, along with CON faculty Liz Tyree, Tracy Evanson, Cheryl Stauffeneck and staff Val Krogstad traveled throughout North Dakota, visiting the state's four reservations and Indian Health facilities. Of the trip Val Krogstad said, "If you want the best guided tour of Indian Country in North Dakota, Deb Wilson and Lizz Yellowbird are the experts. The trip was educational, enlightening, informative, fun, and you get to know your co-workers even better than before. It was great to see so many of our graduates at work and so successful in their nursing careers."



Gloria Davis (BSN, 97) and David Azure (RAIN nursing student) were working in the ER at the Belcourt IHS facility at Turtle Mountain.



While we were visiting the Fort Yates IHS hospital, Lizz Yellowbird (in red above) received some nursing care from Alyssa DeCoteau (MS, 03; BSN, 96), left, and Valerie EagleShield (BSN, 88).



CON's Professor Tracy Evanson explains some UND nursing graduate programs to Jennifer Thomas (BSN, 96) who works at the Belcourt IHS.



Susie Mesteth (BSN, 97), Wind River Service Unit, WY



Brenda Hoverson (BSN, 97) White Earth Career Fair, MN

Wyoming Indian High School College Day



Lodge Grass High School students (above and below) at the Little Big Horn College Career Fair



Robbi Baker (BSN, 07), Fort Yates IHS Hospital



Shannon LittleWolf (BSN, 02), Crow IHS Hospital

Fall 2008 Recruitment Travel

September 22-24: National Indian Health Board (NIHB) Conference in Temecula, California

October 23-26: National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Conference in Seattle, WA. Barb Anderson attended.

October 24-29: National Alaska Native/American Indian Nurses Association (NANAINA) in Branson, MO (see page 4)

October 29-November 1: American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) Conference in Anaheim, CA. Barb Anderson attended.

November: In Montana--Fort Peck, Wolf Point, Northern Cheyenne, Crow. In Wyoming--Wind River & Ethete. In South Dakota--Eagle Butte, Cheyenne River, Rapid City IHS, Pine Ridge, Rosebud

December: In Minnesota--White Earth in Mahnomon. In North Dakota--United Tribes in Bismarck



Ian Greybull, right, (BSN, 01; Current FNP student)



NON-PROFIT ORG
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
GRAND FORKS, ND
PERMIT NO. 10

RAIN RHYTHMS

Quentin N. Burdick Indians into Nursing
RAIN Program

430 Oxford Street Stop 9025
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9025
Phone: 701.777.3224; Fax: 701.777.4558
www.nursing.und.edu/rain/

RAIN RHYTHMS is a newsletter of the RAIN Program, College of Nursing
University of North Dakota

Photo taken at Grand Portage, MN